

**TOWN OF MERRILLVILLE  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
MAY 26, 2020  
4:30 pm Via Conference Call**

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Bella called the meeting to order at 4:32p.m.

**ROLL CALL:** Roll Call taken by Madam Clerk Treasurer Gibson, Present were Councilman Spann, Councilman Hardaway, Councilman Minchuk, Councilwoman Uzelac, Councilman Pettit, Vice President White, and President Bella, All seven (7) Council members were present.

**PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND REMONSTRATIONS:** There were no reports.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Accts. Payable Register Voucher Approval for May 26, 2020  
Approval of Town Council Meeting Minutes of May 12, 2020

Motion to approve consent agenda made by Councilman Pettit, Seconded by Councilwoman Uzelac. The motion passed with a 7-0 voice vote. Motion carries.

**GENERAL ORDERS:** No general orders presented.

**ORDINANCES**

**FIRST READINGS:** There were no first reading ordinances.

**SECOND READINGS (Discussion and Roll Call Vote)**

**Ordinance 20-07 (Discussion, Public Comment & Roll Call Vote)**

An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana authorizing additional appropriations in the LOIT Public Safety Fund. President Bella asked for further discussion, seeing none, motion to approve made by Councilman Pettit, seconded by Councilwoman Uzelac. As this was a second reading Ordinance, President Bella asked if there was any public comment. There was no public comment and the motion passed with a 7-0 roll call vote.

**Ordinance 20-09 (Discussion, Public Comment & Roll Call Vote)**

An Ordinance authorizing the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, to make temporary loans to meet current running expenses. Motion by Councilman Pettit to approve, seconded by Councilwoman Uzelac. President Bella asked if there were any question by the council. Hearing none, he asked for public comment on this second reading. Motion was passed with a 7-0 roll call vote.

**RESOLUTIONS: (Discussion and Voice Vote)**

**Resolution 20-15(Discussion and Voice Vote)**

A Resolution addressing the continuity of essential operations during an emergency situation and all matters relating thereto. This is an Ordinance authorizing an employee to fill in for Kelly White Gibson in case of an emergency. Also, listing all Council Members as contact and Pat Reardon as Town Manager. President Bella asked for further discussion, seeing none, motion by Councilman Minchuk to approve, seconded by Councilman Spann. Motion to approve was passed with a 7-0 voice vote, Motion carries.

**OLD BUSINESS:** There was no old business presented

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Vice President White made a motion to appoint Wiley Luther Cuttino as the Town of Merrillville new Police Chief. The motion was seconded by Councilman Spann. President Bella asked if the motion could be amended to include asking the town attorney, Joe Svetanoff to prepare a letter of hire. Vice President White accepted the motion and Councilman Spann indicated that his second would stand. There was some discussion about the hiring process and the motion passed with a roll call vote. 7-0.

Councilwoman Uzelac mentioned Borden's Company donated one thousand gallons of milk to The Food Bank on Broadway. Also, free Covid-19 testing that took place last week at the Calumet High School.

Councilman White mentioned that he had spoken to rose at the Lake County Health Department regarding Dr. Vivilala providing testing for the Council and Town residents and possibly having a zoom call. The location and date TBD.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Bill Touchette at MCD spoke on the sewer system at the South Turkey Creek subdivision and provided updates. There have been water backups with the high flows in Turkey Creek. Since September 2019 we have cleaned and televised all of MCD sewers in TC and made line repairs. The bulk of water coming into the sewers during wet weather times are coming in through footing tile drains that are hooked up to our sewers that are not supposed to be hooked up, sump pumps and some gutters that are not supposed to be hooked up. Starting 2/18-5/19, 2020, MCD hired an engineering company to do a flow metering studied directed to the South Turkey Creek subdivision. MCD plan is to cut their sewer line and divert South Turkey Creek subdivision to MDC Madison Street Lift Station, location at 73<sup>rd</sup> & Madison or run it west and tap into a force main that runs alongside the south side of bike path and tap into the force main and direct the flow to MCD Taft Street Lift Station. We are also going to contact NIPSCO to get a lift station or easement. We're requesting engineering proposals to replace force mains. Requesting engineering proposals from engineering firms to rehabilitate MCD Madison lift station at 73<sup>rd</sup> & Madison Street.

Vice President White said people are having problems with the drain tiles. Bill Touchette said they don't have the funds to go into 250 houses and pump out the water. Vice President White said the north side looks like a bowl shape area. MCD is working on long term and short term solution to alleviate some of the complaints

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next Town Council Meeting was announced for Tuesday June 9, 2020 Time TBA

**ADJOURNMENT**

Seeing no further discussion. President Bella asked for a motion to adjourn. Vice President White made the motion to adjourn and Councilwoman Uzelac second. Meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

---

Rick Bella President

---

Kelly White Gibson Clerk Treasurer